

# 4A

## discourse markers (2): adverbs and adverbial expressions

## GRAMMAR BANK

<b>A</b> I really like your shirt. Hasn't Harry got one just like it?	To change the direction of a conversation, but making a link with what has just been said.
<b>B</b> <b>Talking of</b> Harry, did he get the job he applied for?	
So let's meet at five o'clock then. <b>By the way</b> / <b>Incidentally</b> , could you possibly lend me some money until the weekend?	To introduce something you have just thought of, or to change the subject completely.
<b>A</b> Did you see the match last night?	To introduce additional surprising or unexpected information.
<b>B</b> No, I didn't. <b>Actually</b> / <b>In fact</b> / <b>As a matter of fact</b> I don't really like football.	
We didn't go away at the weekend because I had too much work. <b>In any case</b> / <b>Anyway</b> the weather was awful, so we didn't miss anything.	To introduce the idea that what you said before is less important than what you are going to say. To return to the main topic after a digression.
Yes, it was a bad accident. <b>At least</b> nobody was killed, though. Tom's coming to the meeting, or <b>at least</b> he said he was.	To introduce a positive point after some negative information. To make what you have just said less definite.
<b>As I was saying</b> , if Mark gets the job we'll have to reorganize the department.	To return to a previous subject, often after you have been interrupted.
<b>On the whole</b> , I think that women make better journalists than men.	To generalize.
I like both flats, but <b>all in all</b> , I think I prefer the one next to the cathedral.	To say that you are taking everything into consideration.
I think we should buy them. <b>After all</b> , we'll never find them anywhere cheaper than this.	To introduce a strong argument that the other person may not have taken into consideration.
I don't think I'll come to Nick's party. It will finish very late. <b>Besides</b> , I won't know many people there.	To add additional information or arguments.
<b>Basically</b> , my job involves computer skills and people skills.	To introduce the most important or fundamental point.
<b>Obviously</b> you can't get a real idea of life in Japan unless you can speak the language.	To introduce a fact that is very clear to see or understand.
She's very selfish. <b>I mean</b> , she never thinks about other people at all.	To make things clearer or give more details.
A lot of people booed, and some people even left early. <b>In other words</b> , it was a complete disaster.	To say something again in another way.
Please try not to make a mess when you make the cake. <b>Otherwise</b> I'm going to have to clean the kitchen again.	To say what the result would be if something did not happen or if the situation were different.
That's all you need to know about the travel arrangements. <b>As far as</b> accommodation <b>is concerned</b> , <b>As regards</b> / <b>Regarding</b> accommodation, the options are living with a family or living in a hall of residence.	To introduce a new topic or to announce a change of subject.
The government are going to help first-time buyers. <b>That is to say</b> , they are going to make mortgages more easily available.	To introduce an explanation or clarification of a point you have just made.
<b>On (the) one hand</b> , more young people today carry knives. <b>On (the) other hand</b> , the total number of violent crimes has dropped.	To balance contrasting facts or points. <i>On the other hand</i> is also used alone to introduce a contrasting fact or point.

a Circle the appropriate discourse markers in the dialogue.

**A** What a good film! I really enjoyed it. Didn't you?

**B** Actually / *Incidentally*, I didn't like it very much.

**A** Why not?

**B** <sup>1</sup>*Basically* / *After all* I thought it was incredibly far-fetched. I couldn't believe in the characters at all, and the plot was totally implausible.

**A** I wouldn't call it far-fetched. <sup>2</sup>*At least* / *In any case* it wasn't supposed to be a true story.

**B** I know, but it was set in a very specific historical period. <sup>3</sup>*Otherwise* / *Obviously* you can't expect the dialogue to be totally authentic, <sup>4</sup>*I mean* / *on the other hand* nobody knows exactly how people spoke in the 17th century, but <sup>5</sup>*at least* / *anyway* the period details should be right. There was a clock in the king's palace and they didn't have clocks until the eighteenth century! <sup>6</sup>*All in all* / *That is to say* I thought it was a pretty awful film.

**A** We'll have to agree to disagree then. <sup>7</sup>*By the way* / *As a matter of fact*, do you know what time the last train leaves? I don't want to miss it. <sup>8</sup>*Otherwise* / *In any case* I'll have to get a taxi home.

**B** 11.40. Don't worry, we've got plenty of time. <sup>9</sup>*In fact* / *Besides*, I think we've even got time to have something to eat. Do you fancy a quick pizza? There's a good Italian restaurant just round the corner.

**A** Yes, let's go. <sup>10</sup>*As I was saying* / *Talking of* Italian food I made a wonderful risotto with mushrooms last night...

b Complete the sentences with appropriate discourse markers. Sometimes more than one answer may be possible.

The food was delicious and the service was excellent. *All in all* the meal was a great success.

1 Jason is an excellent teacher, *although* ..... I think female teachers are usually better with four- and five-year-olds.

2 **A** Did you buy the shoes in the end?

**B** No, they were too expensive. And ..... I decided that I didn't really like them that much.

3 I really think you ought to apply for the post of head of department. .... you've got nothing to lose, and you might just get it, who knows?

4 **A** I've just read a brilliant book that Simon lent me.

**B** ..... Simon, did you know he's moving to New York?

5 **A** How was your day?

**B** Fine. I finished work a bit earlier than usual. .... did you remember to get a birthday present for your mum?

6 It was a very grey, overcast day, but ..... it didn't rain.

7 **A** Do your wife's parents live near you then?

**B** ....., they live in the flat below us. It's not ideal but it does have some advantages.

8 They've employed me as a kind of troubleshooter - ..... somebody who sorts out problems whenever they occur.

9 ..... salary ....., you will be paid on the 30th or 31st of each month, with a bonus in December and in July.

10 You'd better hurry up with your homework. .... you won't be able to watch TV tonight.

11 I'm not sure what the best solution is. .... buying our own place would mean not having to waste money paying rent, but ..... I'm not sure we can really afford a mortgage.

## verb + object + to + infinitive

- 1 We **expect the flight to arrive** at 19.50.  
It **took me ages to get** there.  
She **advised him not to travel** by train.
  - 2 I **would hate you to think** that I don't appreciate your offer of help.  
I'd **like you to send** me the bill.
  - 3 I'm **waiting for my friend to arrive**.  
We've **arranged for a taxi to come** at 6.30.
- 2 We often use the following verbs + object + to + infinitive: *ask, advise, allow, beg, cause, enable, encourage, expect, force, help, intend, invite, mean, order, persuade, recommend, remind, take (time), teach, tell, warn*.
- After *advise, persuade, remind, teach, tell*, and *warn* you can also use an object + *that* clause, e.g. *He advised me that I should stay off work for two weeks*.

- ⚠ After *recommend* you can use
- object + to + infinitive, e.g. *He recommended me to take some cash.*
  - a *that* clause, e.g. *He recommended that I took some cash.*
- You can't use *recommend* + object + *that* clause, e.g. NOT *He recommended me that I took some cash.*

- 2 We also often use object + infinitive with *want, would like, would love, would prefer, would hate*.
- After these verbs a *that* clause is impossible. NOT *I would hate that you think*.
- 3 After some verbs including *arrange, ask, plan*, and *wait* we put *for* immediately after the verb before the object + to + infinitive.

## verb + object + infinitive without to

Please **let me explain**!  
He **made me feel** really guilty.  
Can you **help me do** the washing up?

- We can use object + infinitive without *to* after *let, make*, and *help*.
- *Help* can be followed by object + infinitive with or without *to*, e.g. *She helped me (to) make the dinner*.

- ⚠ When *make sb do sth* is used in the passive, it is followed by the infinitive with *to*, e.g. *We were made to clean our rooms every morning*.

## verb + object + gerund

Please don't **keep me waiting**!  
I **dislike people telling** me what to do.  
I **don't mind you smoking** in the garden, but please don't smoke in the house.

Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

'Take special care because of the snow and ice,' the police told motorists.

The police warned motorists to take special care because of the snow and ice.

- 1 I don't like it when people answer their mobiles in restaurants.  
I dislike people \_\_\_\_\_ in restaurants.
- 2 I felt uncomfortable because of the situation at work.  
The situation at work made \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 You are going to stay with a British family. We have made the arrangements.  
We have arranged \_\_\_\_\_ with a British family.
- 4 I don't have a problem if Jane comes, but I'd rather her boyfriend didn't.  
I don't mind \_\_\_\_\_, but I'd rather her boyfriend didn't.
- 5 Please don't think I didn't enjoy myself, because I did!  
I would hate \_\_\_\_\_ I didn't enjoy myself, because I did!
- 6 You paid for everything, which wasn't what I expected.  
I didn't expect \_\_\_\_\_ everything.
- 7 It would be wonderful if you stayed for a few days.  
I would love \_\_\_\_\_ for a few days.
- 8 If you get this job, you will have to travel a lot.  
This job will involve \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9 I told Hannah not to forget to do the washing up.  
I reminded \_\_\_\_\_ the washing up.
- 10 Did you really use to be shy? I can't imagine it!  
I can't imagine \_\_\_\_\_ shy!
- 11 We were able to buy a bigger flat thanks to the money my uncle left me.  
The money my uncle left me enabled \_\_\_\_\_ a bigger flat.
- 12 The guards wouldn't let us cross the border.  
The guards prevented \_\_\_\_\_ the border.
- 13 I could call back later if you're busy now.  
Would you prefer \_\_\_\_\_ later?
- 14 The car might break down on holiday. We don't want to take the risk.  
We don't want to risk \_\_\_\_\_ while we're on holiday.



## real and unreal

- 1 They **won't get** a table unless they've already **booked**.

**Can I borrow** your dictionary a moment if you're **not using** it?  
If it **stops** raining, I'm **going to** walk into town.

- 2 How **would** you **know** if he **wasn't telling** the truth?

If we **had** a bit more time here, we **could go** on an all-day river trip.

- 3 I **would have picked** you up if I **had known** what time your flight arrived.

If I'd **been looking** where I was going, I **would've seen** the hole in the road.

- 1 Type 1 conditional sentences are used to talk about a possible present or future situation and its result.

You can use any present tense in the *if* clause and any form of the future in the other clause.

- 2 Type 2 conditional sentences are used to talk about hypothetical or improbable situations in the present or future.

You can use the past tense (simple or continuous) in the *if* clause and *would* + infinitive (or *could* / *might*) in the other clause.

- 3 Type 3 conditional sentences are used to talk about a hypothetical situation in the past.

You can use the past perfect (simple or continuous) in the *if* clause and *would have* + past participle (or *could* / *might have*) in the other clause.

## mixed conditionals

I **wouldn't be** in this mess if I **had listened** to your advice.

Jane **would have left** Mike by now if she **didn't** still **love** him.

If we want to refer to the present and the past in the same sentence, we can mix tenses from two different types of conditional, e.g.

*I wouldn't be in this mess* (type 2) *if I had listened to your advice* (type 3).

*Jane would have left Mike by now* (type 3) *if she didn't still love him* (type 2).

alternatives to *if* in conditional sentences

- 1 I'll tell you what happened **as long as** / **so long as** you promise not to tell anyone else.

**Provided** / **Providing** (that) the bank lends us all the money we need, we're going to buy that flat we liked.

They agreed to lend us the car **on condition** (that) we returned it by the weekend.

- 2 I'm going to sell the car **whether** you agree with me **or not**.

- 3 **Even if** I get the job, I'm going to carry on living with my parents for a while.

- 4 **Supposing** you lost your job, what would you do?

- 5 **Had I known** that you were coming, I would have bought a bottle of wine.

- a Right (✓) or wrong (X)? Correct the mistakes in the highlighted phrases.

If you hadn't been here last night, I don't know **what** I would do. *what I would have done*

- 1 They wouldn't have made you Marketing Manager if they didn't think you were right for the job.

- 2 The government would accept more refugees if the camp isn't so crowded.

- 3 If you've done all your homework, you can go out this evening.

- 4 We wouldn't be living in Singapore now if my company hadn't been taken over by a multinational.

- 5 Hannah would be in the first team **if she didn't get** injured last month.

- 6 If you've ever been to New York, you will know exactly what I'm talking about.

- 7 They would get divorced ages ago if they didn't have young children.

- 8 If the storm wasn't at night, more people would have died.

- 9 If their flight hasn't been delayed, they will have arrived by now.

- b Complete the sentences with *one* word. Don't use *if*.

*Supposing* we missed the last train, how would we get home?

- 1 My father has agreed to lend me the money

\_\_\_\_\_ I pay it back by the end of the year.

- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ if I had played my best, I still wouldn't have beaten him.

- 3 I'll tell you exactly what happened as \_\_\_\_\_ as you promise not to tell anyone.

- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ the rebels not surrendered, there would have been a lot more casualties.

- 5 The company will only employ me on \_\_\_\_\_ that I sign a two-year contract.

- 6 We've decided we're going to go ahead with the event \_\_\_\_\_ we sell all the tickets or not.

- 7 I'm convinced Amy won't get back with her boyfriend, \_\_\_\_\_ if he apologizes.

- 8 You can go to the party \_\_\_\_\_ long as you are home by midnight at the latest.

- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ we do buy a dog, who's going to take it for walks?

- 10 I'm going to make an appointment for you at the doctor's \_\_\_\_\_ you like it or not.

- 11 \_\_\_\_\_ the plane not caught fire, there would have been more survivors.